AmericanStyle Magazine has ranked Alexandria the #3 arts destination among mid-sized cities in the US, and The Art League’s “Paint” Alexandria is featured in the article!

Ellen Delaney’s Color Fields

Ellen Delaney’s landscape paintings are abstracted yet representational. Her paintings are full of contrast – rough texture vs. sharp lines, abstract vs. representational elements, complementary colors, and man made vs. natural objects. Her solo exhibit Color Fields will be featured at The Art League Gallery, June 10 – July 5, 2010.

Delaney likes to work with a palette knife to build up volume and texture, create abrupt lines and sharp edges. She likes the contrast between texture and line, which is evident throughout her work. She works in acrylic either on paper or on plywood, and enjoys experimenting with color and different color combinations, often producing landscapes with bright and energetic palettes. The square format of her works adds to the abstraction and is a unifying element throughout the exhibit.

“I’m not trying to recreate or to replicate a scene. I often abstract a photo or am inspired by parts of various landscapes.” She pieces together elements from different landscapes to create her own vision.

Her profession as a contemporary architect comes through in her painting, with her strong sense of composition and clean lines. Delaney feels that the most valuable skill she’s transferred from her professional career to her work is an artist is the ability to objectively edit her work. Delaney has only been painting for about 10 years, and has quickly become quiet accomplished. She shows regularly at The Art League and is newly juried artist at the Torpedo Factory Art Center.

Opening Reception and Meet the Artist: Thursday, June 10, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Time for Membership Renewal

You can now renew your membership online! Memberships all expire on June 30, 2010. The cost to renew is $70. Go to www.theartleague.org, click on “Gallery,” then “Membership Application” to renew online. You may still renew your membership in person or by mail.
Curves Juror’s Dialogue and Award Winners

Juror’s Dialogue

Warren Perry came into the gallery obviously expecting to see the human figure, but he had no idea he would encounter such an abundance of media, formats, and styles. He was looking for images of the figure that portrayed the curvature of the body, and he was looking for resonance – an echo that doesn’t stop.

“What I discovered the moment I began reviewing the work was the multiple lenses committed to bringing the human form into representation. This was what I hoped and expected I would experience. The word surfeit comes into play. There was a wealth and a quality canon inside these submissions. There were two criteria I employed in considering the works: One, was the human form represented in terms of that one titled word- curves, and two, how was the work provocative, new, or simply excellent. I hope you enjoy reviewing these works as much as I enjoyed experiencing them.” Visit our website to read the full article.

Award Winners:
Best in Show: Nancy Jacques
Bertha G. Harrison Award: Nancy Garcia
Honorable Mention: Deanna Boling, Elisaa Farrow-Savos, Sherry Ferguson, D.J. Gaskin, Roberta Glick, Margitta Hanff, James Nemer, Teresa Oaxaca, Thiem-Kim Pham, Barrie Ripkin, Ernest Sinnes, Janos Somogyi, Paula Wachsstock, Charles Wang, Ann Zahn.

“Paint” Alexandria 2010 is FREE!

The Art League’s “Paint” Alexandria is an annual all-media plein air event featured each spring in Old Town. For 2010, we are offering this as a FREE event for artists of all media and skill levels on Saturday, June 19.

We invite artists, art appreciators, and the artistically curious to join Art League instructors as they visually explore and interpret historic Old Town. Sessions with different instructors are held over the day in a variety of media including painting, drawing, and photography. The public is encouraged to watch the artists at work.

This year’s featured instructors include: Bobbi Pratte, Daniel Wise, Libby Cullen, Avis Fleming, Peter Ulrich, Sara Poly, and Robert Liberace. Stay tuned to our website for the specific schedule.

June Gallery Exhibit: All-Media with an Emphasis on Sculpture

Works for this exhibit can be 2-D or 3-D. Each year we select one month to feature our sculptors and we always have a sculptor as our juror for this exhibit. All members may enter work, not just sculptors. Any media or style will be appropriate for this exhibit.

Juror: Foon Sham, Professor of Art at the University of Maryland. Sham is a well-known sculptor and has exhibited throughout the world. His most recent exhibit was at Project 4 Gallery in Washington, DC. He graduated from the California College of Arts and Crafts and received his MFA at Virginia Commonwealth University. Born in Macao, China, Sham came to the United States in 1975. He has received many awards and recognition for his work, including the Franz and Virginia Bader Fund Award. His installations can be seen locally in Rosslyn and at the Gallery Place-Chinatown Metro station. Awards: Sham will award the $125 Urquhart Award.
Female Shorts: Film and Video Showcase

Join us on Facebook for the latest on this collaboration between the Target Gallery and The Art League celebrating films created and directed by women. Screenings of the award winning films will begin on Thursday afternoon June 3 and continue through Sunday, June 6.

For a complete schedule of screenings and special director led discussions visit our website.

All screenings are free of charge other than the feature presentation on Friday evening. Tickets for the feature film, “Who Does She Think She Is?” will be $5 for advance purchase, Art League members and Torpedo Factory artists, $8 at the door. Directed by Pamela Tanner Boll, co-executive producer of the Academy award-winning film, Born into Brothels: The Kids of Calcutta’s Red Light District. Who Does She Think She Is? examines some of the most pressing issues of our time: parenting and work, partnering and independence, economics and art. A trailer can be viewed at www.whodoesshethinksheis.net. Don’t miss it!

We need volunteers to help sell tickets and take tickets on Friday and help out at the door during all screenings. Volunteers can attend all screenings for free. Female Shorts will be the final event in the Minds Wide Open programming celebrating Women in the Arts in Virginia.

No Early Entry or Pick Up

We have recently been overwhelmed with members wanting to drop off work early for our monthly juried shows and wanting to pick up their work early. We do not allow this under any circumstances. Last month alone we would have had 40 pieces removed before the exhibit was over. We advertise our exhibit to last through Monday of receiving day. It is not uncommon to have sales late Monday afternoon and many visitors will wait until the last minute to come see an exhibit. We cannot allow you to take work off the wall before the exhibit closes.

Early drop-off is not allowed because we have too little storage space and no way to keep track of any work left early. If you cannot deliver your work during the drop-off times you cannot enter the show. Members often ask friends and neighbors or family members to drop off or pick-up their work and this is acceptable. No written permission is required if someone other than yourself delivers or picks up your work although Gallery staff may request to see identification.

Late Fee: Work not picked-up within two weeks of the Tuesday of receiving will be charged $1 a day storage fee (up to a maximum of $5 per piece.)

Bin Gallery Membership

If you have been juried into at least three shows since July 1, 2009 you are eligible for Bin Gallery membership. Annual dues for bin gallery membership are $50 for all two-dimensional artists. Dues for three-dimensional artists and pastel artists (those who cannot display work in the bins) are $35. Bin dues are in addition to your yearly $70 gallery membership. You must pay your $70 gallery membership dues in order to be a bin gallery member. Both fees can be paid at the same time.

An e-mail will be sent in mid-June to all those who are eligible for the bin gallery next year. Orientation meetings will take place on Thursday, May 27, 6:00–7:00 pm, Thursday, June 17, noon–1:00 pm and Friday, June 18, 5:00–6:00 pm. All eligible members who want to join the bins must attend one of these meetings. If you’ve been a member previously, attendance is not required but highly recommended so you can learn about the changes for 2010-2011.

In June, July and August we will feature one wall of the Bin Gallery with framed works under $100. Please bring those in if you have them. This is not required but we hope it will boost sales for everyone.
Board of Directors Election

The Annual Meeting to elect the new Board of Directors will be held on Sunday, June 13, 4:30 pm in the gallery. All are welcome to attend the meeting. If you have not received a paper ballot in the mail, please let us know so we may email or mail a ballot to you.

Slate of Nominees, 2010-2011

President: Betsy Anderson
First Vice President: Nancy Pane Fortwengler
Second Vice President: Jane McElvany Coonce
Recording Secretary: Betsy LeBleu Curry
Treasurer: Ellen Fishbein

Members-at-Large:
Emile "Duke" dePlanque
William Doying
Margaret Garten
Diane Tesler
Patricia Uchello
Elizabeth Weathers
Edward Yawn

David Carter and Ted Betts at National Harbor

David Carter
Instructor David Carter currently has a solo exhibit at The Art League at National Harbor. David’s large scale paintings are paired with small detailed studies drawn on the walls giving the viewer a chance to take part in his process. The paintings themselves reference several of Caravaggio’s Biblical narrative paintings in rather unexpected ways. He uses play between figure and shadow to translate themes used by Caravaggio, resulting in deeply personal yet engaging work.

Special Memorial Exhibit in Honor of Ted Betts
Art League instructor Ted Betts was born in rural Maryland, and it is this landscape to which he paid homage in his many atmospheric paintings. Ted’s artwork persuade us to engage with subjects that may not be considered for artistic expression— the rusty drainpipe, the fallow field, and the collapsed foundation of an abandoned barn. The symbolic relationships between decay and rebirth, forgotten and recovered, unkempt and aligned, have fond interpretation in his paintings. Ted’s low-key approach and engaging manner built him a loyal following at The Art League— both inside and outside the classroom environment. His commitment to his students was well known and the steady stream of beautiful artwork flowing from his former students is a tribute to his gifts as a teacher.

Ted passed away in 2005. His family has graciously provided works to The Art League for sale for this exhibit.

Please join us for a reception on Tuesday, June 8 from 6:30-8:30 pm at our National Harbor Gallery to celebrate Ted and David’s work.
Opportunities at The Art League

"Exhibition Prints Using Ink Jet Printers with Color Management"
Tuesday, June 22, 2010, 1:00 – 3:00 pm in The Art League Gallery
Join photographer and Art League member, John Burgess as he discusses creating successful prints using ink jet printers based on his experiences and training in color management. Burgess has been a photographer for 30 years and is constantly working to perfect his printing skills. Burgess says that, as a photographer, he strives to control the entire process, from image capture to the exhibition print. As Ansel Adams said, "The negative is the score, the print is the performance."

Burgess studied with Freeman Patterson in Canada and has taken classes with Joseph Holmes and Josh Taylor, Jr. He attended Mike O’Conner’s advanced Photoshop class at Montgomery College and has taken Photoshop classes with Elliot Cohen at the International Center for Photography. He also studied with Jon Cone at his workshop, “From Photoshop to the Epson Printer” in Vermont.

He processes his RAW photos in Photoshop CS2 and prints with an Epson 3800 on Hahnemühle photo rag or Epson exhibition fiber papers. He has owned an Argus C44, a Pentax Spotmatic and several Nikons. His present camera is a Canon digital Rebel XTI which he uses with three “L” series lenses, a 180mm macro, a 28-70 F2.8 and a 70-200 F 2.8 zoom. For his bird photography, he uses a 2X telephoto extender with the 70-200 lens.

To register please call, 703-683-1780, or e-mail roseo@theartleague.org

Success as an Artist with Kate Fraser
Sunday, June 13, 2010, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Deadline to register – June 10, 2010
This is a one-day seminar for Art League members designed to give practical information and advice towards a successful fine arts career. Each seminar is limited to 40 people per session. The cost is $80 per person and each seminar is six hours long. The presenter, Kate Fraser, has given this seminar to hundreds of DC area artists, curators, teachers and other arts professionals since August of 1999. Fraser is owner of the Fraser Gallery in Bethesda, MD. The issues covered and discussed are not based on theory, but grounded on actual experience. For more details on the seminar please go to - http://www.thefrasergallery.com/seminars.html. To register please call the gallery at 703-683-1780. Checks may be made payable to The Art League.

Alexandria Recreation Centers Looking for Artist Volunteers!
The Alexandria Rec Centers (specifically the Charles Houston Rec Center) are looking for volunteers with experience in the performing and visual arts for summer art programs in late June through July. This is a great way to help get more kids involved in the arts and get involved in the community! For more information, please contact: Jason A. Ellis, Program Coordinator, Ruby Tucker Family Center, Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, 703-535-3175, jellis@arha.us.

Nearby Travel Workshop

Solomons Island, Maryland:
The Harbor and Lighthouses with Bobbi Pratte
Sunday, June 6, 2010
Discover and capture on canvas the unspoiled and uncommon beauty of Solomons Island, a quiet waterfront fishing village where the Patuxent River meets the Chesapeake Bay. $95 per person. Arrive on Saturday evening, ready to paint the early morning light on Sunday morning. The longer days of summer are perfect for plein air painting! Optional local lodging reserved, if desired, at the Comfort Inn for $46 per person, double occupancy.

For reservations or information, please contact The Art League at 703-683-1780 x 13, or by email: margaretc@theartleague.org.
Summer Term and Upcoming Workshops

Summer term is nearly here (it begins June 29). The schedule has several changes and additions, so visit our website for all your old favorites and new offerings for 2010 Summer Term. In an effort to accommodate your summer vacation plans, many of our summer classes are presented over fewer weeks than in other terms. Several classes start after the Fourth of July holiday weekend. Our varied schedules may allow you to fit a class into your plans this summer!

Upcoming Workshops:


Pinhole Photography with Alison Duvall. June 20, 2010 for $90.

Please call the School office, 703-683-2323, for more information.

Art League Supply Store: A Survivor

Where can you go to buy art supplies besides ordering them online these days? The Art League supply store is one of the last standing physical shops that you can walk into and buy materials in the Washington, DC area... AND what makes our store stand out, is that our store employees are knowledgeable, working artists who are ready and willing to guide you with your purchases. Visit the store page on our website to check out store hours and read more about our services.

2009–2010 Board of Directors
President: Betsy Anderson
First Vice President: Nancy Pane Fortwengler
Second Vice President: Jane McElvany Coonce
Recording Secretary: Betsy LeBleu Curry
Treasurer: Ellen Fishbein

Advisory Committee:
Membership Renewal Form
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

☐ $70 – Regular, exhibiting membership.
☐ Friend of The Art League (non-exhibiting membership) Donation of $25 or more.

☐ I have added an additional $___________ donation to my membership dues.

☐ I am interested in becoming a Benefactor of The Art League.
The Art League’s Benefactors: provide support of high quality exhibition and educational services at affordable prices; provide for critical outreach services; and help to position The Art League for the future. The Art League is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all contributions are tax-deductible. To make a donation or to learn more about becoming a Benefactor, go to www.theartleague.org and click on “Donate Now.”

All Members, please fill out:

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
Home Phone __________ Work Phone __________ Cell Phone __________
Email ____________________________ Website __________
Medium/s __________________________

To pay by Credit Card: # ____________________________ Exp. Date ___ / ___ CVV(3 digit code) __________

Volunteer Opportunities: Please indicate how you may be able to help!
☐ Anything ☐ Bulk mail ☐ Closet sorting ☐ Exhibit installation, Hanging Crew ☐ Framing/Matting
☐ Gallery aide ☐ Hospitality/opening receptions ☐ Painting the walls of the gallery ☐ Patrons’ Show
☐ Show week receiving crew ☐ Show week jurying (selections crew) ☐ Show week exhibit crew (labeling, cleaning glass, leveling work) ☐ Evenings ☐ Weekends ☐ Weekdays ☐ Short notice

Please note any special skills or any additional ways in which you would be willing to contribute:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Please complete and sign this form, checks payable to “The Art League” and return to the Gallery.

While we make every effort to protect artwork in the gallery, artists understand that they exhibit at their own risk. No person will be denied membership on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, ethnic origin or any other basis prohibited by statute. However, The Art League reserves the option of refusing or discontinuing membership to any person deemed incompatible with the process of gallery operations due to disruptiveness or any behavior inconsistent with the policies set forth for the Board of Directors as well as the employees. A gallery policy manual is available for your review in the gallery library. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with all our policies. Applicants, by the signature affixed below, attest to the understanding that this is a cooperative endeavor and that they will be expected to help in some capacity. Permission to photograph any work in the exhibition for publicity purposes or for documentation is considered granted.

Signature ____________________________ Date ____________________________
Calendar

June 2010

June 7/Monday, 6:30-8:30 pm: Receiving for All-Media with an Emphasis on Sculpture and Bin Gallery.
June 8/Tuesday, 10:00 am-12:00 noon: Receiving continues.
June 8/Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 pm: Early pick-up of unselected works.
June 8/Tuesday, 6:30-8:30 pm: Reception at National Harbor for David Carter and Ted Betts.
June 10/Thursday: Ellen Delaney’s solo exhibit Color Fields opens.
June 10/Thursday, 6:30-8:00 pm: Opening reception for All-Media Exhibit with an Emphasis on Sculpture and Ellen Delaney’s solo exhibit Color Fields. Awards presented at 7:30 pm.
June 13/Sunday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm: Success as an Artist Seminar with Kate Fraser. *Pre-registration required.
June 13/Sunday, 4:30 pm: Annual Meeting, election of Board of Directors in the gallery.
June 19/Saturday: “Paint” Alexandria 2010!
June 22/Tuesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm: Seminar with John Burgess on using ink jet prints. *Pre-registration required.

July 2010

July 5/Monday, 6:30 - 8:30 pm: Receiving for All-Media exhibit and Bin Gallery.
July 6/Tuesday, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon: Receiving continues.
July 8/Thursday, 6:30 - 8:00 pm: Opening reception for All-Media exhibit and Megan Coyle’s solo exhibit Stories in Paper. Awards presented at 7:30 pm.